



Miller Avenue Baptist Church

Mill Valley, California

An Evangelical and Reformed Congregation*

Acts 2:42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Merry Christmas!

December 22, 2024

*We claim the original, non-political, Biblical meaning of “Gospel Proclamation”



Ministry Associates

Kent Philpott – *Senior Pastor*
 Katie Philpott – *Associate Pastor*
 Vernon Philpott – *Associate Pastor*
 James Daley – *Preaching/Treasurer*
 Daniel Dover – *Preaching/Handyman*
 Andrea Busta – *Audio-Visual*
 Shirley Laur – *Pastoral Ministry*
 Rebeka Etuku – *Preaching/Facilities*
 Juan Carlos Garcia – *Spanish Pastor*

← *Mary Visits Elizabeth*

WEEKLY SCHEDULE	
SUNDAY	
Morning Worship (<i>in person and via Zoom</i>)	10:30–12:00
Lunch and Gathering	12:20–1:20 pm
Spanish Evening Worship (<i>in person</i>)	2:00–3:30 pm
WEDNESDAY	
Divorce Recovery Workshop (<i>via Zoom</i>)	6:50–8:30 pm
Meal and Study in the parsonage	5:30–7:00 pm
FRIDAY	
Bible Study in the parsonage	6:00–7:30 pm
Prayer Meeting in the chapel: English/Spanish	8:00–9:00 pm
SATURDAY	
Donated food distribution in the hall	10:00–11:00 am

Miller Avenue Church – 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

milleravenuechurch.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Angels' Candle

And at once with the angels there was a great throng of heavenly hosts, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace for those he favors."

Reading of Luke 2:8–14

Christmas Hymn: # 270 Joy to the World

Call to Worship: The Song of Mary—Luke 1:46-55

Morning Prayer — Prayers of the Church — Silent Prayer

Collect of the Day

STIR UP YOUR POWER, OH LORD, AND BE HERE WITH US. TAKE AWAY THE HINDRANCE OF OUR SINS AND MAKE US READY FOR THE CELEBRATION OF YOUR BIRTH, THAT WE MAY RECEIVE YOU IN JOY AND SERVE YOU ALWAYS; FOR YOU LIVE AND REIGN WITH THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND FOREVER. Amen.

We Confess our Faith — The Apostle's Creed

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 61:1–3; Philippians 2:4–11; Luke 1:26–38

Memory Verse: (The Creator God speaking to the serpent) "I will put enmity between you and the *woman*, and between your offspring and her offspring, he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise your head." (Genesis 3:15)

Reflection: How unlikely, by human standards is this, the incredible story of Christmas.

Choruses: “Joseph’s Song” & John and Merrily and choir.

Offertory Theme: Better to give than to receive.

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give when not present at service:

- 1) Go to the “Giving” page of our website: milleravenuechurch.org/giving and click on the “Donate” button, then follow the link.
- 2) Download the GivePlus+ app on your smartphone, then input Miller Avenue Church and follow the instructions.
- 3) Text a dollar amount (e.g., \$25) to 844-918-0231, then follow the link.
- 4) Mail a check to Miller Avenue Church, 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

The Doxology

Announcements:

Birthdays, Fellowship dinner and study at the parsonage Wednesdays, 5:30–7:00, Friday night prayer, lunch after service, and food in the silver refrigerator.

Christmas Eve Service →5:00← pm with reception afterwards

Bible Exposition: Christmas theme (Katie)

Hymn: # Away in a Manger

Christmas Sermon: The Magnificat
(Kent Preaching)

Benediction song: Hymn #271 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Aaronic Benediction (Numbers 6:24–26):

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Shalom. Amen.

Visit our church website: www.milleravenuechurch.org:

TV Shows, Worship Service Videos, Audio Sermons, Essays, Pastor’s Blog, Community Blog, Newsletters, Bulletins, Photo Gallery, Giving Portal, and more!

Also visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/miller.avenue.church.mill.valley>

Did you know?

Our “Miller Avenue Church” video-on-demand apps are now on:
Your iPhone (at the App Store) or Android phone (at the Play Store) plus

Roku
Apple TV
Fire TV
Google TV
YouTube
Cross.TV

Our Bible Study podcasts and Sunday morning sermons are also on:
Apple podcasts, Amazon music/audible, Gaana, YouTube Music, iHeartRadio, Radio.com mobile app,
and Spotify (look for “Miller Avenue Church”)

Questions? ask katie@milleravenuechurch.org



Gospel Meditation

The Christmas Story

Genesis 3:14–16; Ps 22:14–18; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6–7; Gal. 4:1-6

1. God addressed the Serpent, who had deceived Adam and Eve, and states, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel.”
2. The woman’s offspring, as the historic drama in Scripture makes plain, is Mary’s son Jesus, who defeats the serpent while the serpent is only able to do minor or temporary damage.
3. In Psalm 22, then, is a portrayal of the damage the serpent does, all under the authority of the Creator. The Psalmist, David, depicts a man dying on a cross hundreds of years before the invention of this horrible instrument of execution is invented.
4. Isaiah the prophet speaks of a virgin giving birth to “Immanuel” which means “God with us.” Then this virgin-born son is “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (If you look carefully, you will see the Trinity.)
5. Further along in Isaiah we find this Immanuel as the suffering servant of Israel. The prophet speaks of a person despised and rejected, but who is “wounded for our iniquities” and upon whom is laid all of *our* sin.
6. Isaiah goes on to say that this despised one’s dying is an “offering for sin,” yet his days will be prolonged, even that “the will of the LORD prosper in his hand.” This is clearly about Jesus’ resurrection (see Isaiah 53).
7. In the first century CE a former Jewish Rabbi, the Apostle Paul, in writing to a Gentile audience, sums up the ultimate intention of God in this manner: “When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were born under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:4-5).

Notes:

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

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Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen

Visitor Information Card

*Please tear off and fill out card.
Place in offering basket or
give to church staff member.*

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Prayer Request

Please pray for:

Other comments:

I would like someone to contact me to pray over more confidential matters.

I would like to learn more about:

- Christianity
- The Bible
- Baptism
- Receiving Counseling
- Deliverance Ministry
- Other _____

I am interested in helping with:

- Lunch
- Fix-up and Clean-up
- Donated Food Pick-up
- Worship music
- Worship Audio/Visual
- Television Crewing
- Pastoral Care Team
- Teaching
- Writing and Publishing
- Website Maintenance
- Other _____

I am interested in attending:

- Wed. Eve. Divorce Recovery
- Men's Group (TBD)
- Women's Bible Study (TBD)
- Zoom Class on Christian History

Other Comments:

**Upcoming Preaching Schedule
Morning Service:**

- Dec. 29:** Sermon= Mark 15:42–16:8 (Kent)
Expo= Luke 2:15–21 (Vern)
- Jan. 5:** Sermon= 1st Paradox (Kent)
Expo= John 8:21–30 (Richard)
- Jan. 12:** Sermon= 2nd Paradox (Kent)
Expo= John 8:31–38 (James)

Spanish Sunday Afternoon Service:

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Filming schedule at CMCM has resumed most Thursday afternoons. Contact Kent or Katie if you are interested in learning how to crew on our productions

TV Program Viewing Schedule

(View all on Marin cable channel 26 or 99)

Why We Are Christians:

Saturdays 1:30 and Fridays 7:30 PM

Bible Study:

Fridays 8:00 PM

Spiritual Paths and the Pastor:

Sundays noon, Mondays 2:30 PM

For current daily broadcast schedule, check online at cmcm.tv/watchcommunity

Giving:

Monthly Budget	\$4,000
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*Giving for December	\$3,806
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*Does NOT include digital giving